REMARKS

In view of the foregoing agreed upon amendments, applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Allowance of the claims remaining in this application and passage of the application to issue at an early date are respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Group Art Unit 2173, Examiner B. Huynh at facsimile number: 703-746-7238, on May 17, 2002.

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-Page 5 of 9-

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when any of said one or more registered or unregistered application programs are executed;

determining whether one of the applications has specified a folder for storing files related to the one application;

determining whether the one application has redirected file storage from the folder to a current folder; and

determining whether files within the current folder are of one or more particular types; and

setting a default folder for storing, files related to the one application, wherein the operating system sets the default folder, provided that the one application has not specified a folder, that the one application has not redirected file storage to the current folder, and that no file stored within the current folder is of the one or more particular types.

13.   (Five Times Amended) A computer comprising:

a processor;

a memory; [and]

one or more registered or unregistered application programs; and

an operating system executed by the processor from the memory to provide a predetermined file-storage folder as a default folder on file operation dialog boxes [accessible] accessed by [a plurality of] any of said one or more registered or unregistered application programs when any of said one or more registered or unregistered application programs are executed, wherein the file operation dialog boxes are defined independently of the application programs.

14.   (Five Times Amended) A computer-readable medium having an operating system stored thereon for execution on a computer to provide a predetermined file-storage folder

-Page 7 of 9-

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as a default folder on file operation dialog boxes [accessible] accessed by one or more registered or unregistered application programs when any of said one or more registered or unregistered application programs are executed, wherein the file operation dialog boxes are defined independently of the one or more computer application programs.

15.   (Four Times Amended)   An operating system comprising one or more file-management modules defined to provide a default file-storage folder to one or more registered or unregistered computer application programs when any of said one or more registered or unregistered application programs are executed, wherein the one or more file-management modules are defined independently of the one or more computer application programs.

21.   (Twice Amended)   An operating system comprising a graphical user interface which includes: a desktop that provides access to a predetermined file-storage container and to one or more registered or unregistered application programs; and one or more file-operations windows [accessible] accessed by registered or unregistered application programs when any of said one or more registered or unregistered application programs are executed, wherein each file-operations window includes a link to the desktop.

25.   (Thrice Amended)   A computer system for executing one or more registered or unregistered applications and an operating system, the system comprising:

when any of said one or more registered or unregistered application programs are executed:

means for determining whether one of the applications has specified a folder for storing files related to the one application;

means for determining whether the one application has redirected file storage from the folder to a current folder;

-Page 8 of 9-

means for determining whether files within the current folder are of one or more particular types; and

operating system means for automatically setting a default folder for storing files related to the one application, provided that the one application has not specified a folder for storing files, that the application has not redirected file storage to the current folder, and that no file stored within the current folder is of the one or more particular types.

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